The STATE HORNET

Volume 23 No.52 SACRAMENTO STATE COLLEGE Wednesday, January 13,1971

A little light please!



Photo by Bob Montgomery

Dean of Facilities John Cox and Norman Castellan, chairman of the Campus Planning Committee react act as the floodlights were turned on in the Little Theatre when students presented their alternate proposal for the Education Building landscape. They had been sitting in the dark for quite some time.

NO SCHOOLS

Non-violence advocates see answer in decentralization

By DAN CRAWFORD
Hornet Staff Writer

"Being in school is a political act," declared Larry Falk of the Palo Alto Institute for the Study of Non-Violence. "Trouble starts" when people don't realize what effect their actions have on others.

Falk, who addressed a group of about 40 people at SSC Monday, dropped out of graduate school where he was studying chemistry before joining the institute. He said he couldn't answer his question of "why" he was in school.

Falk noted that some people would support abandoning the school system altogether, but he wouldn't say such action was everyone. He said that school is "something to do, an end in itself, for many people," and others are in school when it is not "something they want to be doing" and they are not "exerting control" over their own lives.

Falk told of a friend in prison who said it was "just like being in school."

Carold Swenson, also from the institute, said that learning should relate to their environment. She added, "The structure of a school may be a burden that we may not need at all."

She declared there is a need to decentralize to make education "a part of life" and not constrict it to the "institution" of a school.

Mrs. Swenson worked in schools for approximately three years and now stresses the need to get away from our present public school system.

Her answer to such decentralization is to utilize the community school concept. She thinks a more meaningful education can be obtained by learning from the people one associates with. In the case of skilled jobs and professions she supports apprenticeships.

She told of a practice in Denmark in which 15 or more people can receive funds from the government and set up their own system of education. The possible use of a similar system in our country promoting violence, racism and fear was questioned. She admitted that this might happen. (As a note, the Senate Education Committee is considering a voucher system which might allow a similar system to come about in California as students would be allowed to pick their own school and receive funds from the state. Committee hearings are scheduled for today.)

She quoted Fidel Castro who hopes that "Cuba will become an educational environment," and said that she thinks this would be a good idea here, but she was quick to reject his militaristic tactics and other parts of his philosophy.

Both spoke to students of the Pursuit of Peace class taught by Duane Campbell. The event was sponsored by the newly formed Peace Studies Center on campus.

Chancellor issues directive

Urges halt on child day care center pending Trustee action

By PAUL KRONENBERG
Editor

Sacramento State's child day care center has run afoul of bureaucratic red tape again. The center, planned and organized through the efforts of many concerned students and faculty, particularly assistant dean of student activities Margaret McKoane and student Tina Saed, won approval of the Student Senate on Dec. 2 following a feasibility study done by the Board of Fiscal Matters.

The senate allocated $30,000 for the center's operation. This money was to go for purhcase of a building, facilities, and personnel, though the center was to be on self-supporting basis.

Last week a directive from the Chancellor's office in Los Angeles was received by Dr. McKoane ordering her to halt progress on the center's development. The reason stated in the letter was that guidelines for on-campus child day care centers have yet to be passed by the Board of Trustees and that until such time as they are passed, all future work on the center should stop.

"The chief reason that guidelines are necessary," said Dean of Students Donald Bailey, "is that child care facilities involve building and lease problems, which since they are located on state property, fall under the jurisdiction of the Trustees." Dean Bailey, who is the administration's representative to the Student Senate and therefore is fully knowledgeable of the child care program, elaborated further by stating that use of state property must be carefully examined before implementation begins since some plans may conflict with the Master Plan for colleges.

Regardless of the official reason, the delay in implementation of the child care center may make its existence virtually impossible next semester. If the project is delayed until the guidelines are approved, and the channels through which they must pass are calculatingly involved, then the best that can be hoped for is an opening of the center in the fall of this year.

The guidelines which are being proposed are still in the embryonic stage. When they are finally completed they must first go to the Trustees' committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds, and then, barring their disapproval, on to the entire Board for final acceptance. Since the plans are still in an uncompleted phase, and with the entire Board meeting only every other month, this means that adoption of the guidelines might not happen until late March since the Trustees' meeting for January is only two weeks away.

Several key people have expressed their disappointment over the delay, while others merely figure that some amount of bureaucratic red tape must be endured, since it is the safeguard against hasty action like that initiated by ex-president Robert Johns in the vending center fiasco. Whatever the reason, it is apparent that the day care center has reached one of those plateaus within the system commonly called "let's take a closer look."

The Student Senate will discuss day care center guidelines at its meeting today in the Ribera Room at noon. Those interested should attend.



MYTH OF MENTAL ILLNESS

Dr. Thomas Szasz, world acclaimed psychiatrist, told SSC students at a convocation last November that mental illness is being used as a scapegoat, much like witchcraft and masturbation were in the past. "There is no longer the need to call someone a witch because you don't get along with him, you simply say he's crazy," he said. There is no such thing as mental health, a person is either good or bad, you like him or you don't." For an alternative point of view, Bob Fuel, who holds an M.S. degree from SSC, has written the following commentary for *Hornet* readers.

According to Fred M. Sander,M.D., Szasz defines "illness" not medically, as a loss of function, but ethically as a loss of "freedom". In Szasz's book, "The Ethics of Psychoanalysis," he repeatedly states the goal of his therapeutic efforts–achieving autonomy. Thus, treatment becomes an educational, rather than a medical process, designed to increase the "client's" degree of freedom.

In his book "The Myth of Mental Illness," Szasz argues that behavior that we call "sick" is not physiologically but socially determined. Szasz seems to rely on the concept of choice in his theoretical framework to substantiate his claim of individual responsibility for behavior.

Further, it seems that Szasz does not take into account the powerful influence of meanings derived from the interplay of the individual with his family and his culture on his bodily states. It seems that illness implies certain meanings. It is never merely bodily pathology, but has implications for the patient's view of himself and for society's view of him. Thus it can be seen that the complex interaction of physiological and psychological factors go into forming of a client's problem.

For example, an illness may create noxious emotions, raise moral issues, disturb the patient's image of himself, and estrange him from his compatriots. Barred from the front door, these intangibles sneak in at the back and, unless the physician takes them into account, he will often fail. The importance of physiological and psychological interactions in disease and healing is seen clearly in the chronically ill. The patient's loss of earning power, the constant reminder of the fragility of life and the inevitability of death conveyed by his disease, and the pity, scorn, or distaste of those about him are assaults on his self-esteem that often contribute more to his suffering and disability than the disease process itself. To rehabilitate him the physician must not only treat his body but inspire his hopes, mobilize his environment on his behalf, and actively help him to resume a useful place in society. Sometimes this task includes helping the patient to achieve a philosophy of life compatible with his reduced expectations.

In all cultures, phenomena called "mental illnesses" disturb all levels of the person's functioning: bodily, psychological, and spiritual. They involve the suffer's world-view, ethical values, self-image, and his relationships with his compatriots. According to Frank, "These disorders result from or express the interaction of sociocultural stresses with vulnerabilities resulting from combinations of genetic, physico-chemical, and life-experience factors." Seemingly, Szasz, in regarding psychoanalysis as dealing only with disturbed social action and not with mental illness or personality disorders, is not referring to the process that the name inplies for most psychoanalysts.

MIND-BODY DICHOTOMY

Sanders feels that Dr. Szasz may be reinstating the mind-body dichotomy in his emphasis on a division between medicine and psychiatry. Further, Leon Salzman, has written that Szasz's solution seems to propose a return to the viewpoints of the pre-psychiatric era which considered man to be a wholly rational being who is always capable of free choice and determination regardless of his mental state.

It seems that in the writings of Szasz there is an unfortunate tendency to exaggerate and mislead, and thereby to weaken what might have been a serious contribution to medical jurisprudence and psychotherapy. In "Psychiatric Justice", by construing freedom as "lack of restraint," even in the face of mental disturbances, Szasz argues that "competence to stand trial" involves legal questions and courtroom behavior and should therefore be determined by judges and lay juries rather than psychiatrists. He seems to simply overlook the essential issue by failing to note that the psychiatrist is only asked to comment on the "mental competence" of the defendant to stand trial, not the defendant's legal talent. He highlights some instances where the issue of "mental competence" has resulted in outrageous injustices. However, in one example the court records reveal in detail his theoretical rigidity, which did not serve his client very effectively. The instances of miscarriage of injustice, he asserts, are the calculated and deliberate intent of psychiatry, rather than the prevailing deficiencies of judicial and medical systems.

Thomas Szasz is a serious and scholarly man who seems compelled to make challenging, extreme, and controversial statements which, to me, rather than make lucid, tend to confuse. I was once present when a John Bircher spoke at the college. He had a lot of good things to say and seemingly a lot of garbage. What he said could only be useful if the valid insights could be separated from the petty "name calling" and obvious non-rational remarks. As I am not an expert in the field, I tend to dismiss the whole thing rather than spend my life trying to extricate the jewels from the garbage. Although the jewels might be paste to me, an expert might take the time to sort out and make use of "gems" of wisdom. Although there may be diamonds in the rough, it seems that the taint of doubt inspired by the psuedo-gems, or paste, is enough for a novice to assume guilt by association, or a part-trash all-trash theory.

In other words, I am sure there are many pearls of wisdom contained in the work of Szasz, however as Leon Salzman puts it: "Szasz adds only confusion and an Alice-in-Wonderland quality which implies that everything is something else and only Szasz has the real answers."

Part two on Friday



walk around state

- *U.P.C. hosts Bill Cowling*
- *Sigma Delta Chi elections*
- *Slide show and panel*
- *Natural foods clarification*

The recent firings at Fresno State College and the threat those firings pose for all faculty and students at state colleges will be the topic of a discussion by Bill Cowling, associate professor of English at Fresno State College.

All faculty and students are invited to hear Cowling speak. He will be on campus Monday, Jan. 18, at 3 p.m. in DH 108.

Special meeting Friday, Jan 15, of Sigma Delta Chi. Election of officers at 12:30 p.m. in DH 110.

A slide show and panel discussion on womanhood will take place tonight, Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Business Administration building room 214.

The "Natural Foods 'Hi' " column of Tuesday, Jan. 12, should have read: "Calcium needs phosphatase and natural vitamin D (found in raw milk) to render it useable." That sentence had incorrectly read with the word "phosphates," due to a typographical error.

Brotherhood is the meaning of college

College students are no different from lodge brothers, aboriginal tribesmen, and military, political, and religious organizations in requiring that novices pass through initiation rites. Life's transition periods - birth, confirmations, weddings included - are marked by hoopla and ceremony, by games and feats of endurance. The pledge period is no different.

The primary responsibility of the pledge education period is no longer the generally misconceived idea of a free-for-all hazing period but that of education for brotherhood. It is during this pledging period that attitudes necessary to character building, ambition, and personal beliefs are taught. The result is that the pledge period is essentially an attitue-building course of instruction.

During this educational period the pledge must be open to new ideas, to new knowledge, to positive thinking, and a strong conviction that he is moving toward the goals that he desires in life.

As the pledge begins working with the brothers of the fraternity he immediately becomes an asset to the fraternity and more important, to himself. He develops self-confidence in his ability to get along with people. He gains a feeling of security because he knows his brothers feel the same way and would do anything possible to help him, just as he would do anything possible to help them. In this spirit, the disposition towards the learning process becomes emotionally toned and the pledge becomes motivated to fulfill his potential. They are challenged and they respond. These are the ultimate goals of fraternity life.

These goals combined with the objectives of professional competency, the encouragement of scholarship, and the promotion of the commercial and general welfare of the community are the reasons why Delta Sigma Pi was formed for the business student.

Smoot dispute

Editor, the Hornet:

We, a committee of concerned students, have submitted the following petition to the executive committee of the Department of English:

Because George Smoot teaches English courses that meet otherwise unfulfilled needs, and because we consider him a highly effective teacher, we, the undersigned, hereby request a special meeting of the Executive Committee in conjunction with a group of six student spokesmen, to reopen the question of George Smoot's retention as a teacher in the English Department of Sacramento State College.

Ed. Note: a petition signed by 200 students accompanied this letter.

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